

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 COA-02 COME-00 IO-12 EB-11 ACDA-19

AEC-11 AGR-20 CG-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00

NSF-04 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 RSR-01 /175 W

----- 042505

R 281255 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6972

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS PBOR BR

SUBJ: US BRAZIL SHRIMP FISHING AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 54128

1. GOB INFO ON POSSIBLE AGREEMENT VIOLATIONS REQUESTED
PARA 5 REFTEL WAS TRANSMITTED IN EMBASSY' S 1633.

2. FONOFF OFFICIALS HAVE INFORMED EMBASSY THEY ARE AWARE THAT
GOB LIST OF VIOLATORS MAY CONTAIN SOME ERRORS (PARA 2 BRASILIA
1633). THEY SAID BRAZILIAN NAVY ALSO AWARE OF SIMILARITIES
IN NAMES OF VESSELS BUT INCLUDED ALL BOATS THAT COULD NOT
BE FIRMLY IDENTIFIED ACCORDING TO INFORMATION MADE AVAILABLE
THUS FAR. OFFICIALS NOTED THAT ABSENCE OF IDENTIFICATION
NUMBERS FOR SOME BOATS ON LIST RAISED POSSIBILITY THAT
THESE MAY NOT BE US.

3. DIRECTOR OF FONOFF RAW MATERIALS DIVISION FURTHER
COMMENTED THAT LACK OF DEFINITIVE LIST OF US SHRIMP BOATS
COMPLYING WITH AGREEMENT COMPLICATES GOB TASK OF SURVEILLANCE,
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LEADING TO PROBLEMS NOT ONLY OF POSSIBLE ERRONEOUS VIOLATION REPORTS BUT ALSO OF HINDERING THE IDENTIFICATION OF NON- AGREEMENT NATION BOATS OPERATING IN AGREEMENT WATERS. HE NOTED THAT NEW FISHING SEASON WAS BEGINNING AND URGED THAT USG PROVIDE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE A DEFINITIVE LIST INCLUDING INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR IDENTIFICATION THAT IS SPECIFIED IN THE AGREEMENT. HE SAID PROVISION OF A COMPLETE LISTING WOULD HELP AVOID UNNECESSARY PROBLEMS AND WOULD ALLAY SUSPICIONS IN SOME GOB QUARTERS REGARDING INTENT OF US FISHERMEN TO COMPLY FULLY WITH AGREEMENT. WHEN EMBOFF NOTED THAT IDENTIFICATION DATA ACCOMPANIED BOAT PICTURES TRANSMITTED TO GOB, OFFICIALS RESPONDED THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED ONLY 135 PICTURES WHILE 170 BOATS HAD REQUESTED PERMISSION TO FISH UNDER AGREEMENT.

4. OFFICIALS ALSO ASKED ABOUT REASONS FOR DELAY IN US IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION. EMBOFF GAVE RESPONSE CONTAINED PARA 3 REFTEL.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY IS CONCERNED AT LENGTH OF TIME IT IS TAKING TO AGREE ON AND TO PRESENT LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE TO CONGRESS, AND FACT THAT THERE MAY BE FURTHER EXTENDED DELAYS IN CONGRESS. SINCE LEGISLATION WILL CONTAIN NEW CONCEPTS, IT ASSUMED THAT CONGRESS WILL WISH TO EXAMINE IT WITH CARE AND THERE MAY BE FURTHER DELAYS. WE CAN UNDERSTAND THE DESIRABILITY OF MOVING SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY BUT WISH TO EMPHASIZE THAT WE DO HAVE SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM CONCERNING TIMING.

6. THE SHRIMP AGREEMENT EXPIRES AT END OF THIS YEAR. SINCE LAW OF THE SEA PROBLEMS CANNOT BE RESOLVED IN 1973, IT PRESUMABLY WILL BE NECESSARY FOR US TO NEGOTIATE AN EXTENSION OF PRESENT ARRANGEMENT AND TO MAKE SUCH REQUEST THIS YEAR. BRAZILIAN COOPERATIVENESS ON THE SHRIMP AGREEMENT WILL DEPEND HEAVILY ON OUR FULFILLING OUR SIDE OF THE BARGAIN, NOT ONLY BY COMPLYING WITH THE VOLUNTARY ARRANGEMENTS BUT ALSO BY GETTING IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION THROUGH CONGRESS AS QUICKLY AS IT CAN POSSIBLY BE DONE.

7. EMBASSY THEREFORE URGES THAT WE MOVE RAPIDLY TO:
A) PROVIDE UP- TO- DATE LIST OF US VESSELS (PARA 2 OF REFTEL);
B) INDICATE TO BRAZILIANS WHAT ACTION WE INTEND TO TAKE
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CONCERNING INFO ON POSSIBLE US VESSELS FI

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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